UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/25605
15 April 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/SPANISH

LETTER DATED 15 APRIL 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF VENEZUELA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

As Coordinator of the countries of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries that are members of the Security Council (Cape Verde, Djibouti, Pakistan and Venezuela), I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of a statement dated 15 April 1993 concerning the situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I should be grateful if you would have this statement circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Diego ARRIA
Permanent Representative of Venezuela

Annex

Statement by Cape Verde, Djibouti, Morocco, Pakistan and Venezuela

The members of the Movement of the Non-Aligned in the Security Council, co-sponsors of the draft resolution before the Council on the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina (S/25558), remain convinced that there is no alternative for a lasting and peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina to the Vance-Owen Peace Plan, which has been accepted by two of the three Bosnian parties. Thus, they have individually and collectively given their full support to the efforts of the Co-Chairmen of the Conference on the former Yugoslavia for a diplomatic and negotiated end to the conflict. We believe that the Plan must receive full and unequivocal support by the Council.

We are convinced that a stage has been reached wherein all means allowed by the United Nations Charter must be brought to bear by the Security Council on the Bosnian-Serb party, which has so far refused to accept in full the peace plan. Incommensurable harm, both in human and material terms, has already been done. Such a situation cannot be tolerated further.

In this context, we consider as extremely serious the postponement of the adoption of the aforementioned draft resolution and view it as a dangerous precedent. Although it has been argued that a postponement of action by the Council on the draft resolution would allow for further diplomatic efforts, we consider that the Bosnian-Serb party has given ample proof that it is not willing to heed to any goodwill efforts for peace, as the renewed shelling of Sarajevo and Srebrenica clearly shows. At the same time, it would be highly undesirable if consideration by the Security Council of an issue of vital importance for international peace and security, such as the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, was not allowed to be fully considered purely on its own merits.

We share the assessment of Messrs. Vance and Owen on the need for immediate implementation of the proposed economic sanctions on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia-Montenegro) as a measure necessary for the immediate acceptance of the peace plan by the Bosnian-Serb party and to guarantee thereafter its full implementation in good faith.

We stand behind the principles contained in the draft resolution which we have co-sponsored. In this context, we have proposed the immediate consideration by the Security Council of the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina. We are convinced of the need for the overall membership of the United Nations to express their views on this issue.

We reiterate that the scope of measures the international community must address to help bring about a renewal of the Serbian aggression in Bosnia-Herzegovina should include, in addition to those already identified in the draft resolution, the immediate immobilization of heavy weapons and placing them under effective international control; lifting of the arms embargo presently hampering the right to self-defence of the Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina; effective

interdiction of all arms supplies to the Bosnian-Serb party; and effective enforcement of comprehensive sanctions on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia Montenegro).

We draw attention of Council members to the provisional order issued on 8 April 1993 by the International Court of Justice, which, inter alia, calls upon Yugoslavia (Serbia-Montenegro) to "immediately ... take all measures within its power to prevent commission of the crime of genocide" in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The Non-Aligned members of the Security Council wish to underline the individual and collective responsibility of all members of the Security Council in upholding the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations at this hour of trial for a Member State of the Organization.